

The Robert Wood Johnson Foundation

Communities in Charge

- Design community based systems for financing and delivering care for low-income uninsured.
- Rethink the system: redistribute financing and/or redesign delivery system.
- Twelve projects vary: new insurance products; care management; ER diversion; voluntary models; maximize enrollment; raise new revenue

The Robert Wood Johnson Foundation Communities in Charge Status

- 20 planning grants [1/00]; 14 implementation grants [1/01]; 12 current sites.
- \$16.8 million, in addition to substantial technical assistance and outside evaluator.
- 1:1 local match required.
- Grants end March-June 2004; all remaining projects will continue with local funding

Where Were the Funded Sites?

A map of the United States showing the locations of funded sites. The sites are marked with dots and labeled: San Mateo Co., Albuquerque, Santa Fe, El Paso, San Antonio, Austin, Houston, Dallas, Fort Worth, St. Louis, Chicago, Indianapolis, Cincinnati, Columbus, Baltimore, Washington D.C., New York, Boston, and Philadelphia.

A map of the United States with various cities and locations labeled. The labels include: San Francisco, Los Angeles, New York, Chicago, St. Louis, Dallas, Houston, Phoenix, San Diego, and others. The map is oriented with North at the top.

Headlines I

- Acting alone, only a few communities have the financial and political resources to restructure financing and delivery. Most can make progress toward expanding coverage
- State and Federal resources and support needed
- These projects can be sustained!!!

Headlines II

- Key ingredients: leadership; track record of collaboration; strong vision coupled with a flexible plan
- Barriers: Tough economic times; entrenched social and race relationships; existing safety net structures;

Headlines III

- Tools to share
- Outside evaluation will focus on:
 - Impact of coverage on health status, satisfaction, use
 - Conditions for change
 - Financial impact

Communities in Charge: What's Next?

- RWJF funding strategies
- Audiences: policymakers; communities; funders; local health care leaders
- Messages: need for policy support; educate funders about achieving success and sustainability; coach other communities

Communities in Charge: Lessons about Sustainability

- You can never start too early
- Have a Plan B
- Give everyone a job
- Celebrate success often and share credit
- It takes longer than you think
- Underpromise
- “Stone Soup”

Communities in Charge:

More Lessons about Sustainability

- Be thoughtful: do you want the low hanging fruit or the frequent users?
- Work more closely with Medicaid
- But the patient is the real customer

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- We want to hear from you!
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